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The Cryptogams of the River Elbe. — An interesting subject is treated by Dr. B. Schorler,¹ in his paper on the cryptogams of the river Elbe, and their effect on the impurities which the river receives from the city of Dresden. The subject is certainly not a threadbare one, and it is considered with German thoroughness; it seems probable that in many cases the relatively low algæ and the non-chlorophyllaceous Schizophytes may have a decided influence on the self-purifying of contaminated waters.

F. S. C.

Rockery and Aquarium Plants. — Attractively gotten-up handbooks for the amateur gardener, who wishes to diversify his collection, are Wocke's *Alpen-Pflanzen*² and Mönkemeyer's *Sumpf- und Wasserpflanzen*.³ Both are pleasantly written and well illustrated. If a comparison were to be made between them, the first-named would be characterized as the better done.

T.

Nomenclature in Horticulture. — Prof. F. A. Waugh, in a little brochure recently issued,⁴ calls attention to the need of general adoption of a consistent system of nomenclature for plants cultivated by the gardener and orchardist. His meaning is made clear by the citation in full of several examples of correct nomenclature and synonymic citation, taken from recent publications on fruits and garden vegetables.

T.

Botanical Notes. — "The Red Desert of Wyoming and its Forage Resources" is the title of a bulletin by Prof. Aven Nelson, recently published by the Division of Agrostology of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The paper is illustrated by several reproductions of photographs showing the character of the desert growth, and by a number of figures of grasses and other plants.

Under the title "Studies in the Herbarium and the Field, No. 2," Miss Alice Eastwood, the active curator of the herbarium of the Cal-

¹ Schorler, A. Gutachten über die Vegetation der Elbe und ihre Bedeutung für die Selbstreinigung derselben. Dresden, 1897.

² Wocke, Erich. *Die Alpen-Pflanzen in der Garten-Kultur der Tiefländer*. Ein Leitfaden für Gärtner und Gartenfreunde. Berlin, Gustav Schmidt, 1898. 8vo, xii + 257 pp.

³ Mönkemeyer, Willh. *Die Sumpf- und Wasserpflanzen*. Ihre Beschreibung, Kultur und Verwendung. Berlin, Gustav Schmidt, 1897. 8vo, iv + 189 pp., ff. 126.

⁴ Waugh, F. A. *Notes on Horticultural Nomenclature*. New York, American Gardening, 1898. 26 pp.